

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 09350 221447Z

46

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MC-02 L-03 SP-02 INR-07 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SS-15 /044 W

----- 065665

R 221310Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3583

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9350

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, JO

SUBJ: THIRD COUNTRY TRANSFER

REFS: (A) STATE 222400 (DTG 181319ZSEP75); (B) TEHRAN 9186
(DTG 171154ZSEP75) (NOTAL); (C) TEHRAN 8396 (DTG 280745ZAUG
75); (D) AMMAN 6012 (DTG 080650ZSEP75)

1. REF (A) EVIDENTLY CROSSED REF (B) IN TRANSMISSION. WHEN
WE RAISED SUBJECT OF LATEST MUNITIONS DELIVERY TO JORDAN WITH
GENERAL TOUFANIAN HE WAS UNINFORMED. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER
TRANSFER MIGHT NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE BEFORE HE TOLD US THAT
HE
WAS PERSONALLY CHARGED BY SHAH TO COORDINATE IRANIAN
THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSFER REQUESTS WITH USG. AS INDICATED
REF (B), TOUFANIAN HAS TAKEN FURTHER STEPS TO ASSURE THAT
UNCOORDINATED DELIVERIES, SUCH AS SHIPMENT OF NAPALM
CANNISTERS IN LATE AUGUST, WILL NOT OCCUR AGAIN.

2. DESPITE TOUFANIAN'S ASSURANCES AND EVIDENT GOOD FAITH,
WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT UNCOORDINATED ACTIONS BY
IRANIAN ARMED FORCES ARE ALWAYS POSSIBLE. X WE DISCUSSED
THIS PROBLEM IN REF (C) AND SUGGESTED THAT WE ATTEMPT TO
PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTION THROUGH ARRANGEMENT TO CONSULT
WITH JORDANIAN OFFICIALS WHEN THEY CONTEMPLATE ACQUIRING
U.S.-ORIGIN EQUIPMENT FROM IRAN. WE UNDERSTAND AMBASSADOR
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 09350 221447Z

PICKERING'S DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS APPROACH IN LIGHT OF

RECENT HAWK PROBLEM. SHOULD ATMOSPHERE IMPROVE IN AMMAN, WE WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD ADDRESS SUBJECT WITH JORDANIANS ALONG LINES OF AMBASSADOR BYROADE'S CONVERSATION WITH BHUTTO (ISLAMABAD 8113). WE WOULD NATURALLY NOT WISH ANY CONVERSATION IN AMMAN TO REFER TO DEFICIENCIES IN COORDINATION ON IRANIAN SIDE.

3. AS TO QUESTION OF ACQUISITION OF NAPALM BY MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE FORCES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE GOI WOULD PROVE VERY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR ARGUMENTS ALONG LINES PRESENTED PARA 2, REF (A). IRANIANS WOULD HAVE IN MIND RECENT PRESS REPORTS OF U.XS. WILLINGNESS TO SELL LANCE AND PERSHING MISSILES TO ISRAEL AND WOULD FEEL THAT OUR SENSITIVITY OVER NAPALM WAS OVER STATED. FURTHER, THEY WOULD ALSO PRESUME THAT ISRAELI FORCES HAVE NAPALM AT THEIR DISPOSAL. ACCORDINGLY, IF WE WERE TO SUGGEST AS SEEMS IMPLIED REF (A) PARA 3, THAT RECENT SHIPMENT OF NAPALM-RELATED EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE RETURNED BY JORDAN TO IRAN, WE COULD ANTICIPATE A MAJOR PROBLEM WITH GOI. WE TRUST THAT AS THESE ITEMS ARE NOT CONSIDERED "SIGNIFICANT DEFENSE ARTICLES ON U.S. MUNITIONS LIST," WE WILL NOT BE DIRECTED TO TAKE THIS DRASTIC STEP WITH IRAN.
HELMS

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